Increase in Unemployment

371. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether with economy registering a regular growth of 7 to 9 percent every year, unemployment has out-stripped all economic growth;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of economic growth, growth in employment and unemployment over the last three years, indicating the number of the unemployment generated both in rural and urban sector during these years; and

(c) the main reasons for increase in unemployment and the concrete steps proposed to be taken to deal with this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force survey conducted by National Sampled Survey Organisation and estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are obtained through National Accounts Statistics compiled by Central Statistical Organisation. As per these reports, the Indian Economy registered an average annual growth rate of 6.7% during 1993-94 to 1999-2000 and 5.98% during 1999-2000 to 2004-2005, whereas the annual rates of growth of employment as on usual status basis during these periods were 0.98% and 2.95% as against unemployment growth rate of 3.23% and 3.7%. Number of unemployed persons was estimated to have increased from 9.04 million in 1999-2000 to 10.84 million in 2004-05, resulting into an increase of 1.80 million (1.15 million in rural and 0.65 million in urban areas).

(c) Increase in unemployment is mainly attributed to higher rate of growth of working age population than total population, increase in labour force participation rates, particularly among women and higher unemployment among educated youth. Approach paper to 11th Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million job opportunities during the Plan period and in order to achieve this target, rate of growth of non agricultural employment is to be accelerated to 5.8% per annum from 4.7% in 1999-2005.

Rehabilitation of Child Labour

†372. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children rendered unemployed due to ban imposed on child labour by the Government;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the rehabilitation of such children;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount sanctioned for this rehabilitation scheme;

(e) whether Government have constituted any monitoring committee for the implementation of eradication of child labour; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States of the country. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are put into the Special Schools where they are provided with education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care etc. About 3.37 lakh children

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.